



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
Department of Safety & Professional Services  
1400 E Washington Ave.  
Madison WI 53703

Mail to:  
PO Box 8935  
Madison WI 53708-8935

Email: [drl@wisconsin.gov](mailto:drl@wisconsin.gov)  
Web: [www.drl.wi.gov](http://www.drl.wi.gov)

**Governor Scott Walker      Secretary Dave Ross**

---

Voice: 608-266-2112 • FAX: 608-267-0644 • TTY: 608-267-2416

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 30, 2011

Contact: John Murray  
(608) 266-8608  
[John.Murray@wisconsin.gov](mailto:John.Murray@wisconsin.gov)

## **Governor's Budget Launches New Department of Safety and Professional Services**

*Agency Focused on Regulatory Efficiencies, Customer Service and Pro Business Climate*

**Madison, WI** – Governor Walker's signature on the 2011-13 state budget marks the start of the new Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) – formed by combining the Department of Regulation and Licensing and parts of the Department of Commerce.

The new agency completes the Governor's plan to re-craft the Department of Commerce into the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) with a singular focus on job creation.

"The Department of Safety and Professional Services is the final piece of Governor Walker's plan to enhance the focus on job creation while bringing greater efficiencies to the way our state regulates individuals and businesses that hold licenses," said DPS Secretary Dave Ross.

"Our focus on efficiencies and enhanced customer service will help create the pro business climate we need to create 250,000 new jobs over the next four years."

Merging the Department of Regulation and Licensing and the Department of Commerce's Divisions of Safety and Buildings and Environment and Regulatory Services into the new Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) is just the first step to a strategic reorganization plan according to Secretary Ross.

"Governor Walker has challenged our new agency with bringing greater value to the 430,000 licensees and permit holders we regulate and our team is ready to embrace this challenge," Secretary Ross said.

"We have a historic opportunity to realign the regulatory functions of state government in a way that fosters job creation, lessens the regulatory burden and protects the public."

###